BIOGRAPHY

CIVIL AIR PATROL United States Air force Auxiliary

LT COL HEATHER MUEHLEISEN, CAP

Lt Col Heather Muehleisen was born in Kalispell, Montana. She joined CAP as a cadet in 1987. She earned the Billy Mitchell award in 1990. Shortly after that she became a Senior Member. She joined the U.S. Air Force as an Allergy/Immunology Technician and left for Basic Military Training in Sep of 1990.

Her first duty assignment was at Williams AFB in Mesa, AZ. In 1991, she joined the Williams Cadet Squadron (SQ 304). She turned 21 and was promoted to 1^{st} LT while attending the AZ wing summer encampment. She then took over as squadron commander in 1992.

Lt Col Muehleisen and her husband, Lt Col Newton Muehleisen met planning a Group IV cadet activity. In 1993 they were married and then transfer to Little Rock AFB in Arkansas. They started attending meeting at the Little Rock Composite Squadron and immediately took over the cadet program. That squadron received Squadron of Merit early the next year. Lt Col Muehleisen took over as the squadron commander in January of 1995.

In 1997, they were blessed with their first child, Nicole. Shortly after that, Lt Col Muehleisen was transferred to Ramstein AB, Germany. Shortly after she arrived in Germany, she was promoted to SSgt in the Air Force and Major in Civil Air Patrol. She then took over as the squadron commander for the Ramstein Cadet Squadron. In December of 1998, she was medically discharged from the Air Force and they returned to Phoenix, AZ.

In 1999, Lt Col Muehleisen went back to college. She later graduated with two Associate in Applied Science Degrees. One degree is in Computer Information System and another is in Microsoft Networking Technology. Later, she graduated Magna Cum Laude from DeVry University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Technology Management.

In 2000 she took over as the DCC for the Deer Valley Composite Squadron. In 2004, they were blessed with the birth of their son, Matthew. Later in 2004, the squadron received Squadron of Merit, Squadron of Distinction, and the F. Ward Reilly Award from National Headquarters. In January of 2007, she accepted the position as the Group IV Cadet Programs Officer and was promoted to Lt Col. She then accepted the position of Group IV Deputy Group Commander in September of 2007. During her time as the Deputy Group Commander she realized that she missed working with cadets. When Lt Col Newton Muehleisen asked her to take over as DCC for Squadron 305, she jumped at the opportunity. She was the DCC for Squadron 305 until March 2011.

Lt Col Muehleisen graduated from the South West Region Staff College in 2006 and the National Staff College in 2007. She then returned to the SWRSC as a staff member in 2007. She has served on staff since then. She was appointed the 2012 SWRSC Director in July of 2010.

During her time in Civil Air Patrol Lt Col Muehleisen has received many awards and decorations. She has received several Commander's Commendations, a Meritorious Service Award, and Exceptional Service Award and several Unit Citations. She was awarded the Certificate of Recognition for Lifesaving. She earned her Gill Rob Wilson Award in 2007.

Currently Lt Col Muehleisen is a disabled veteran and thus a stay-at-home mom. Besides Civil Air Patrol she is also a Girl Scout Troop Leaders and a Service Team Member. She also volunteers at the local elementary school and high school.

Current as of July 2011